

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 17 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended.

In item 5 of the Office Action, claims 1 - 7, 10 - 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 455 946 A2 to Harrison ("HARRISON"). In item 26 of the Office Action, claims 8, 9 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over HARRISON in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,956,514 to Wen et al ("WEN").

Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejections, as applied to the amended claims.

First, Applicant's claims have been amended to even more clearly recite that Applicant's claimed "peripheral" cannot be a program operation unit. More particularly, Applicant's claim 1 has been amended to recite, among other limitations:

said other components including at least one further program operation unit or at least one peripheral which is not a further program operation unit, said stop command being selectively provided from said stopping device to said other component if said other component is said at least one further program

operation unit and said stop command being directly provided from said stopping device to said other component if said other component is said at least one peripheral. [emphasis added by Applicant]

Additionally, Applicant's claim 11 has been amended to recite, among other limitations:

peripherals which are not program operation units, connected to said stopping device, said stopping device issuing said stop command directly to said peripherals causing said peripherals to be stopped, in addition to stopping said at least one program operation unit with which said stopping device is associated. [emphasis added by Applicant]

That Applicant's claimed "peripheral" can be "not program operation units" is supported in the instant application, for example, in paragraph [0029] where Applicant gives examples of non-program operation unit peripherals that can be used as the claimed peripherals. Paragraph [0029] of the instant application states:

The peripheral units P1 and P2 are, for example, A/D converters, timers, DMA controllers or other units, which can be used in programmable units in addition to one or more program running units, and cooperate with them.

HARRISON neither teaches, nor suggests, a stopping device being connected with a program operation unit and further, with **peripherals**, as particularly claimed by Applicant, wherein a stop command is used to stop **both the program operation unit and the non-program operation unit peripherals**.

Rather, in response to Applicant's previous arguments that **HARRISON** did not disclose the peripherals of Applicant's claims 1 and 11, the Office Action stated in item 6f, in part:

However, The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, 4th Ed defines peripheral as, "An auxiliary device, such as a printer, modem, or storage system, that works in conjunction with a computer." In then defines auxiliary as, 1. Giving assistance or support; helping." A processor within a multiprocessor system is a peripheral to the other processors, and the other processors are peripherals to the processor, since each works in conjunction with a computer giving assistance or support to carry out data processing. Therefore, any of the processors, P1-P7 could be considered either a peripheral or a program operation unit. [emphasis added by Applicant]

Applicant respectfully disagrees. As stated above, the peripheral(s) of Applicant's claims 1 and 17 now recite, among other limitations, that the peripheral(s) are not program operation units. As such, the processors P1 - P7 of **HARRISON** cannot be Applicant's claimed peripheral(s).

Item 6f of the Office Action additionally stated, in part:

Examiner notes that the claim language only requires the other components to be either a further program operation unit or a peripheral, not both. [emphasis in original]

Item 9 of the Office Action, stated

Given the similarities between the claims, the arguments as stated for claim 1 are also applicable to claim 11.

Applicant disagrees with the implication of item 9 that Applicant's independent claim 11 requires either a further operation unit or a peripheral, not both. Applicant's claim 11 clearly recites, among other limitations:

peripherals which are not program operation units, connected to said stopping device, said stopping device issuing said stop command directly to said peripherals causing said peripherals to be stopped, in addition to stopping said at least one program operation unit with which said stopping device is associated. [emphasis added by Applicant]

As such, Applicant's independent claim 11 requires, that peripherals, which are not program operation units, are stopped by the same stop command that stops the program operation unit. The above limitation of Applicant's claim 11 is neither taught, nor suggested by HARRISON. The processors P1 - P7 of HARRISON cannot be Applicant's particularly claimed peripherals of claims 1 and 11.

As such, it is clear that Applicant's claim 11 is patentable over HARRISON. Applicant will show herebelow that Applicant's independent claim 1 is additionally patentable over HARRISON.

More particularly, Applicant's claim 1 recites, among other limitations:

a stopping device connected to said program operation unit, said stopping device issuing a stop command to said program operation unit to stop the running of the program by said program operation unit, said stopping device being located on the same chip as said program operation unit;

. . .

said other components including at least one further program operation unit or at least one peripheral which is not a further program operation unit, said stop command being selectively provided from said stopping device to said other component if said other component is said at least one further program operation unit and said stop command being directly provided from said stopping device to said other component if said other component is said at least one peripheral. [emphasis added by Applicant]

As already shown above, HARRISON neither teaches, nor suggests, that a stop command issued by a stopping device to the program operation unit is additionally directly provided to a peripheral which is not a further program operation unit, as recited in claim 17, and one part of claim 1.

However, HARRISON additionally fails to teach or suggest that a stop command provided to a program operation unit is additionally, selectively provided to a further program operation unit. Rather, as stated in Applicant's response to the previous Office Action, HARRISON only discloses selectively producing an interrupt. For example, col. 9 of HARRISON, lines 5 - 10, states:

When a match is found between a detected event and the event defined in the event comparator 30, the event may either be logged into the trace memory in step 61 or an interrupt may be produced, depending on the quality and nature of the detected event. [emphasis added by Applicant]

However, Applicant's claim 1 requires, not that a interrupt be selectively produced, as is done in **HARRISON**, but that, once a stop command is produced (i.e., to be supplied to the "at least one program operation unit", per claim 1), that the already produced stop command is selectively provided to a further program operation unit. **HARRISON** neither teaches, nor suggests, that once an interrupt is produced and is provided to processor P0 of Fig. 1 of **HARRISON**, that the interrupt may also be selectively provided to at least one of the processors P1 - P7 of **HARRISON**, as required by Applicant's claim 1 when the "other components" include at least one further program operation unit.

In summary, Applicant's claim 1 requires that, once a stop command is issued, the stop command is provided to at least one program operation unit and either: 1) is directly provided to at least one peripheral which is not a program operation unit; or 2) is selectively provided to at least one further program operation unit. **HARRISON** neither teaches, nor suggests, directly providing a stop command (i.e., an interrupt) to a peripheral which is not a program operation

unit. Further, HARRISON neither teaches, nor suggests, providing a stop command (i.e., an interrupt) to at least one program operation unit and only selectively providing the stop command (i.e., which was provided to the at least one program operation unit) **to at least one further program operation unit**. Rather, although HARRISON discloses that an interrupt can be selectively produced, HARRISON does not disclose that, **once produced**, the interrupt is provided to one program operation unit, but may only be selectively provided to a further program operation unit (i.e., P1 - P7 of Fig. 1 of HARRISON).

The WEN reference, cited in combination with HARRISON against certain of Applicant's dependent claims, does not cure the above described deficiencies of HARRISON.

It is accordingly believed that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, teach or suggest the features of claims 1 and 11. Claims 1 and 11 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 11.

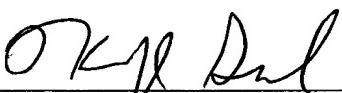
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 - 17 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. In the alternative, the entry of the amendment is requested, as it is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal, without requiring extension of the field of search.

The instant Amendment is being filed simultaneously with a Request for Continued Examination and its associated fee. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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